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Entertainment Extra by Evelyn

Q. Is it true that Cher is planning on having her own weekly television sitcom? Harold K.

A. While it is apparent that Cher can do anything she sets her mind to, a weekly television sitcom is not in her immediate plans. However there have been rumors that a sitcom based on Cher's hit movie, "Moonstruck," might become a reality. However, Cher has no plans to join in on this venture.

Q. I really enjoy "Dallas" and was wondering if you could give me some information on the actress who portrays Rose, Gerald E.

A. The actress in question is the talented Jeri Gaile. Unlike most of the women on "Dallas," Rose is genuinely in love with her TV husband (George Kennedy), so much so, that she's not adverse to sleeping around if it will help her with her husband's business. Last season, she made it with Cliff Barnes' newcomer to a starring role on "Dallas." The show, in fact, is her first television show ever.

Trained as a classical ballerina since the age of four, Gaile danced with the New York City Ballet, the Bolshoi and the San Francisco Ballet before double knee surgery ended her career at age 18.

Devastated, she retreated to her parents' home and literally stayed in her room for a year.

She was finished as a ballerina, but she could still dance. And, she had the height, features and face to model.

Within a year, she appeared in seven national television commercials, and was soon dancing in such films as "Annie," "Pennies From Heaven" and the "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas."

While working, she began observing the acting process and fell in love with the idea. Besides, they rarely got hurt.

Through sheer determination, she enrolled in acting school with Stella Adler and later studied with Richard Brander from Sandy Meisner.

She was spotted by a casting director while on stage in "Cheatin' " in Hollywood and was asked to audition for "Dallas."

The rest as they say is ...

Q. Is it true that A Martinez is leaving his role as Cruz on NBC TV's soap opera, "Santa Barbara?" Joan Y.

A. No. However, A does have his first starring role in a future made-for-television movie on CBS titled "Not of This World." The movie costars actress Lisa Hartman and has A portraying a Midwestern sheriff who falls in love with Hartman. The flick is a sci-fi project complete with an alien who mutilates the townspeople.

Q. Is Roseanne Barr serious about suing (the tabloids) when her own husband (Tom Arnold) used to sell them tips on everybody in Hollywood including her? Viki R.

A. The couple say that has no bearing on what they allege the tabloids have done to them.

Q. A friend came back from a trip to Italy where she had planned to attend a Prince concert during part of her vacation but was told it had been canceled. There wasn't much in the papers, she said, and since we're big Prince fans here in Cleveland, I wonder if you have any details about this. Thanks. Jeannette W.

A. According to a company that apparently represents the singer/actor, a civil lawsuit was filed on behalf of Prince in the Italian courts last August charging breach of contract by the promoter of his four Italian tour dates in July. Prince appears to allege in the suit that the promoter detained his production staff which resulted in the crew being unable to reach two of the four cities on the tour, Udine and Turino. However, Prince did do the concerts in Rome and Carol

Q. You're always settling disagreements about actors and movies, so please see if you can do it again. A friend says Tom Selleck once played a corpse in a movie. I say no way. Who is right? Margo D.

A. Your friend is partly right. Selleck played one of the unwilling organ donors in the film, "Coma."

Q. I had a Mescalero Apache grandmother, and I understand Michael Horse of "Twin Peaks" is also a Mescalero Apache. Can you tell me something about him? Most of all, I guess, I'd like to know if he's single and where I can write to him. Winifred L.

A. Horse, who plays Deputy Tommy "The Hawk" Hill on the ABC series, is of Mescalero Apache, Zuni, Yaqui, plus Spanish and Swedish descent. He was wounded twice during his tour of duty in Vietnam. He's a master silversmith and jewelry designer, a superb horseman and rodeo performer, and plays a mean bluegrass fiddle! He's made several films and guested on most of the nighttime shows. He spends much of his spare time as a volunteer helping inner city children, especially the large population of Native American youngsters living in Los Angeles.

Yes, he's single. Write him c/o "Twin Peaks," ABC/Capital Cities, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, Calif. 90067.

Send your questions to Evelyn Lashgian, c/o King Features Weekly Service, 235 East 45th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017.

THE CHOPPING BLOCK

by Philomena Corradeno

Entertaining when food is involved usually poses a challenge if you want to offer something unique, alluring, colorful and palate-pleasing, something you'll be remembered for after the party's over. You have lots of ideas for entrees, side dishes and salads, but desserts may present a problem. Rely on cheese and fruit, particularly if you take a smallish wheel and dress it up.

Our Saga Blue Fruit Torte may be served at a simple wine and cheese or cocktail party, on a buffet with other dishes, or as a dessert at informal or formal dinners.

Depending on how you serve it — as a dessert or on a buffet — use a whole smallish wheel (about 2½ pounds) for 12 to 16 servings. Use half a wheel for a smaller gathering. You don't want leftovers of the torte, because the fruit will not hold up overnight and may ferment and ruin the cheese. The puff pastry replaces uninteresting crackers generally served with cheese. I'm hardly an artist, but I had fun cutting leaves and etching in the veins.

SAGA BLUE FRUIT TORTE

1 (17½-ounce) package frozen puff pastry sheets
1 egg beaten with 1 tablespoon water
1 wheel Classic Saga (blue) cheese or White Saga
1 quart strawberries, hulled and sliced
½ pint raspberries
2 to 4 Kiwifruit, peeled and sliced
1 pound ruby or green seedless grapes

Thaw puff pastry as directed on package.

Roll each pastry sheet into an 11 by 14-inch rectangle. Cut one 7½-inch circle and one 10½-inch circle. Prick them well with a fork. Position leaves into edge, overlapping some. Arrange several leaves separately for use as garnish. Bake on cookie sheets at 350F for 11 to 20 minutes. During baking, if circles puff up, prick them again with a fork to deflate. Cool.

To build the torte, cut Saga wheel in half horizontally. Place bottom half, soft side up, on the large decorated pastry circle. Place the small pastry circle on top of cheese, and cover with a layer of sliced fruit. Cover with remaining half of Saga wheel. And side up. Garnish with remaining fruit and reserved baked pastry leaves. Serves 10 or more.

NOTE: Pastry may be varied with season, but avoid those that darken when standing, such as apples, peaches, bananas, etc. Chopped pistachios, almonds, hazelnuts, or other sweet nuts may be on or around the wheel.

New Appliances for Christmas gifting: Presto had such success with its Salad Shooter that they have introduced a larger version they've called Professional Salad Shooter. It slices thick or thin, makes ripple cuts and shreds vegetables, grates chocolate, chops nuts and crumbs crackers by changing the cutting "rosset." A removable forced guide directs foods where you want them. Retails under $55. Also from Presto: a redesigned pressure cooker has a new handle with cooking guide for basic foods printed on it. It's U.L. approved and is available in aluminum or stainless steel, in 6- and 8-quart sizes. No longer under discussion are the old pop-on gauge problems.

DEAR DIANE

by Diane Van Arsdale

DEAR DIANE:

I'm a 27-year-old woman, and have been dating a man who is here from another country on a visa. We have only been dating approximately two months, but I have fallen in love with him, and he says he's in love with me as well. He is a nice person, good-looking, and he has all the qualities that I've been looking for, but some things bother me, and I'm not quite sure how to interpret them. We go out socializing with my friends, and he's very possessive with me when we're out. I don't mind a little jealousy, but not possessiveness. The other thing is, he always wants to go out. He doesn't like to spend too much time at home alone with me. I don't understand the need to be out so much. He is 29 and should be over the "going out" phase. Also, he's very liberated as far as money goes. I pay for plenty of things, most of the time, actually, and I'm not complaining. I just think he could spend a little more money than he does. He visa is running out shortly, and he wants to stay. He also has hinted at marriage, and also has hinted at marriage. I think me he loves me very much. In one respect I do believe him, but sometimes I'm not sure if he has a motive. I'm thinking of marrying him, but I don't want to take advantage of. Is there he taken advantage of in any anything I should be looking for that would let me know what his real intentions are?

CONCERNED

DEAR CONCERNED:

I would say to follow your instincts. You have expressed considerable doubts. Therefore, go with that. Don't be suckered into marriage. Too many American women have fallen for that trap only to regret it later when their foreign husbands have what they want — legal permission to stay in this country. The women find themselves wiped out of their bank accounts and totally bereft. That's not to say that all foreign men do this, but it pays to watch out. You've already made some observations about this man that are a bit questionable. That should be a good indicator.

Two months is not a long time. If you really care for him, and he really cares for you, you can continue to correspond when he returns to his country. You can also make plans to visit him. In time you will know for sure. However, to marry him now would be a big mistake.

DEAR DEX

by Dexter Dyer

DEAR DEX

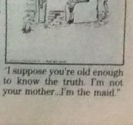
I'm a 37-year-old man, and I married a 48-year old woman about two years ago. Our marriage is basically a good one, but I'm in way over my head now in trouble. Her daughter, who is 19 years old, still lives at home with us. She is pregnant with my child. We've told her mother that it's a guy whom she was seeing, but no longer is. Her mother wants to know more about this man, and make him take responsibility for the child. We of course want her anymore information, because it's a lot to begin with, it's my child. Anyhow, she loves me very much and is going to keep the baby. She said the decision is mine as to what I want to do about this, such as divorce my wife (her mother). In any event, we would raise the baby together anyway, since she will continue to live at home with us. It's a very crazy situation, and I love them both in different ways and for different reasons, and a loss as to what I should do. Do you have any advice?

IN THE MIDDLE

DEAR MIDDLE:

There is no neat and clean solution to this horrible mess. Not only are you involved with your wife's daughter, but now there is a pregnancy involved. He being dragged into the whole travesty. Quite frankly, I think both you and your mate deserve each a few bricks shy of a load. First of all, to think that you can calmly go about your business, raising her child together, and not have your wife catch on is ludicrous. Truths like this are bound to come out. What about the child? Eventually, he or she is going to want to know who his father is. What then? More lies?

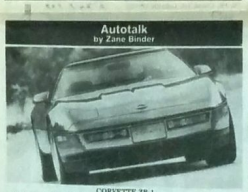
My answer is for both of you to come clean with your wife and then let the chips fall where they may. You're not going to get away with this without suffering the consequences, no matter how you scheme.



I suppose you're old enough to know the truth. I'm not your mother...I'm the maid."

Autotalk

by Zane Binder



CORVETTE ZR-1

This is it, folks, the ZR-1 Chevrolet's ultimate hot-rod Corvette. With 375 horsepower — 125 more than its garden-variety cousins — it's advertised as the fastest Corvette ever built, and one of the world's quickest cars. Priced at $59,790 ($72,016 with the ZR-1 package), it's everything a standard Vette is — and isn't. ZR-1s can be visibly distinguished from their less powerful siblings by square tail lights, rear styling, flared wheel wells, and gigantic tires.

Inside, though, the Corvette spends a similarly "familiar" face. The bucket backrests are thinly-padded Recaro-types and aren't comfortable on long trips; though the seats are equipped with "infinite" type adjustments, they don't help. The seats also bind against the middle console when moved back and forth, climbing in and out.

Instrumentation and amenities also show lack of thought. There are gauges aplenty and a trip computer, but the combination digital/analog dash is annoying. The gauges themselves are tiny, too, and hard to read. There's a cupholder, but it's too shallow to be more than marginally effective.

Turning to luggage space, the coupe has a surprising amount for a sports car. You have enough for a weekend trip, but seriously consider a roof or deck rack.

People buy Vettes, especially ZR-1s, for performance; 0 to 60 in this rear-drive vehicle takes 5.1 seconds (factory figure: 4.8), an excellent time and about a full second faster than standard Vettes. The 5.7 liter (350 cubic inch), 32-valve, 4-cam 375 horsepower fuel-injected engine is smooth, but fairly noisy. It delivers much less low and mid-range torque than the standard Vette (despite what you may read elsewhere), and isn't nearly as pleasant around town. On the top end, though, it really screams, but unless you constantly keep the RPM's up, the 3.45 rear axle isn't enough to keep the engine in its power band. The ZR-1 also has a "NORMAL" and "FULL POWER" engine setting; when in "NORMAL," it limits fuel flow and horsepower to around 206. This helps "save" the engine and makes reasonable sense.

Transmission-wise, the ZR-1 utilizes a decent but extremely long-geared (5th and 6th are overdrives), 6-speed manual and fairly heavy clutch. Fuel mileage is excellent, though, being observed at 19 city and 23 highway. This is about the same as the standard model. This brings us to the car's most onerous feature: to meet EPA mileage strictures, stick-shift Vettes utilize a mechanism that "locks out" second and third gears under certain circumstances. If you start normally, you MUST shift directly from 1st to 4th. Accelerate vigorously and the transmission functions normally. This feature many times causes the clutch to burn, thereby ruining your day or week.

Handling is an excellent reason to buy a Vette. Quick ratio power steering as standard and scores Goodyear Eagle VR Unidirectional Radials really grab the road. A unique low-tire pressure warning system is standard. In theory, at least, it should enhance safety and lengthen tire life (but is it worth the extra complication and cost?). The Vette's turning circle, at more than 40 feet, is dismal and far above the class average. Overall handling is excellent, and by totally objective standards, it's probably the best you can find at any price. But subjectively, it is not nearly as confidence-inspiring as the Nissan 300ZX.

Braking is superb. Standard anti-lock 4-wheel discs do the job!

Overall, the ZR-1 leaves one with mixed feelings. I loved its brutal top-end acceleration, great handling (not the turning circle), and sports-car style; I disliked its poor overall quality and lack of sophistication, the ridiculous 1-4 shift lock-out, etc. Even the handbrake design is primitive and annoying!

Tuning In

by Seli Groves

IN FOCUS — LISA EILBACHER: "Midnight Caller's" new star credits her husband, **Bradford May**, for encouraging her to join the hit NBC series this season. May, executive producer of CBS' "Over My Dead Body" directed a "Caller" episode last year and, says Lisa, "He said it was a great show, with great people, and I'd be making a very good move if I took the role. I followed his advice and I'm glad I did. Of course, it means spending a lot of time in San Francisco where he's the show," she deadpanned. "But," she added, "I can live with the deal with that."

Eilbacher plays the new station manager, Nicolette (Nicky) Molloy who comes in when the previous owner, Devon King (**Wendy Kilbourne**) leaves to marry the father of her soon-due baby and travel with him. In real life, Wendy and her husband are expecting their first born.) Lisa's especially pleased to be working with **Gary Cole** who plays talk show host, Jack Killian. While on set, we saw the relationship between Jack and Nicky will evolve, she promises. "We'll have some very interesting times on the show."

As animal lover ("we have dogs, horses, a macaw ...") and a superb equestrienne, she's one of a growing number of people concerned about the way horses are raced in the U.S. "We've been on the track where they're little more than babies," she said. "Their bones and muscles haven't developed properly and that causes so many of their injuries." She hopes "more people will speak up and help get some much needed changes."

Born in South Arabia, Lisa left the Middle East as a child. "I still remember Kuwait as a beautiful country with wonderful people. It's sad to think how drastically their lives changed."

* * *

DIAL TONES: This week, "Star Trek: The Next Generation" airs episode 80, surpassing the number of original segments made by its predecessor, "Star Trek" ... **Winge Hunter, Christopher Reeve,** and **Meredith Baxter Birney** costar in CBS' upcoming flick, "Bump in the Night" — which is not about an attempt to revive the lambada! The film is a thriller involving alcoholism, kidnapping, and deep, dark secrets

Antiques and Collecting

by Ralph & Terry Kovel

Q: I have a set of four tables with spindly legs. Each table is a little smaller than the next. All four can be pushed together with one under the other. It is a useful piece of furniture because I can pull out an extra small table when I need it. My set is at least 50 years old. It looks like the larger Sheraton-style tables. Who originated this idea of a group of tables?

A. The tables were first introduced in England by Thomas Sheraton in his 1803 design book "The Cabinet Dictionary." He called them "quartette tables," meaning a group of four. He thought that they would be useful for needlework. By 1808, another designer pictured tables to use for serving food; the small tables were moved to hold teacups or cakes. We call these sets nests of tables. The style has remained popular.

* * *

Q: My figurine of a boy has the title "Spring Festival" on the base. The boy is playing a banjo. On the bottom of the figurine are the words, "Designed by Erich Stauffer, 8262." There are also crossed arrows on the base. Any information would be helpful.

A. Arnart, Importers of New York City sold a series of figurines known as the "Original Child Life Series" in the 1970s. The early pieces were marked like yours. Their later pieces are marked with the Arnart crown of the crown and the words "Arnart, hand painted." The figurines are similar to the famous Hummel figurines, but they are not exact copies.

* * *

Q: My small swan-shaped open salt in silver plate with a glass insert. It is marked "Alpacca, Germany."

A. The word "Alpacca" is a **trade name for German or nickel silver. It is not silver, but a silver-colored alloy of copper, nickel and zinc. It dates from the late 19th century.**

* * *

TIP: The word "trademark" was used on English wares after 1855, but most of the pieces with the letters "LTD" were made after 1890.

* * *

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Coupon Corner

by Rose Lynn

Here are this week's offers:

SUAVE $2 CASH REFUND. P.O. Box 4270-H, Monticello, Minn. 55365-4270 (receive $2). Buy any two 24-oz. bottles of Suave shampoos or conditioners. Send in your original cash register tape dated between 7/1/90 and 12/31/90. Also send in the two cap hinges from your purchases. On the form, fill in the UPC number from your purchases in the space provided. Store form required. Expires 12/31/90.

MARLBORO MENTHOL. P.O. Box 8768, Kankakee, Ill. 60902 (receive a free carton). Buy five cartons of Marlboro Menthol cigarettes. Send in the five UPC symbols. Hurry mailer form required. Expires 12/31/90. Void in Minnesota, Utah and Iowa.

SYLVANIA LIGHT BULB OFFER. P.O. Box 2788, Young America, Minn. 55368-2788 (receive $1 or $2). For $1, send two POP seals from twin packs of Sylvania Soft White, Standard or Long Life White Bulbs or Three-Way Light Bulbs. For Soft White Standard or Long Life White Bulbs in four packs, send in one POP seal. You must also send your cash register tape. For $2, send double the number of POPs as above. Store form required. Expires 12/31/90.

FRESH START $3 PRICE REFUND. P.O. Box 34201, Jacksonville, Ill. 60196 (receive $3). Buy one Fresh Start Laundry Detergent, 50-ounce size. Send in your cash register tape and the UPC symbol from your purchase. Store form required. Expires 12/31/90.

ALKA-SELTZER PLUS AT&T OFFER. P.O. Box 420630, El Paso, Texas 88542-0630 (receive up to $5 in AT&T gift certificates). Buy one Alka-Seltzer Plus Cold Medicine and/or one Alka-Seltzer Nighttime Cold Medicine. Proof of purchase is the UPC symbol. For a $2 certificate, send POP of one product. For $5 certificate, send in POP from both products. Store form required. Expires 12/31/90.

FREE DIAL ANTI-PERSPIRANT OFFER. P.O. Box 29205, Tempe, Ariz. 85285 (receive coupon good for a free package). Buy one Dial Anti-Perspirant or Deodorant, Solid, Roll-On or Aerosol. Send in your register receipt. On the register receipt, write the UPC number from your purchase. Store form required. Expires 12/31/90.

LE MENU LIGHT STYLE DINNERS. P.O. Box 140958, El Paso, Texas 88514-0958 (receive two 50-cent coupons). Buy three Le Menu Light Style Dinners. Send in the three POP seals. Newspaper insert form required. Expires 12/31/90.